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ARGENTINA. *May 1.*—The Senate ordered the removal from office of all members of the Supreme Court of Justice, following a trial by the Senate after they had been impeached by the Chamber of Deputies for abuse of authority, violation of duty, and interference in politics.

May 8.—The Government were asked by the International Emergency Food Council to increase grain exports to one million tons per month to help importing countries until the next harvest.

AUSTRIA. *April 27.*—Dr. Gruber, on his return from the Moscow conference, said that the country had now some hope of mitigating the demands which the allies first proposed to make on it for compensation for Allied property. He welcomed the appointment of the 4-Power commission, but refused to call the conference a success. It was, he thought, a flagrant insult to the interests of Austria and a complete contradiction of all the professions which the Allies had made.

Gen. Mark Clark, in a press interview, said that unity at the conference had not been achieved "almost entirely because of the attitude of the Soviet Union" whose proposals for the definition of German property were quite unacceptable and would give the U.S.S.R. rights over raw materials, especially oil, which could not be recognized. He declared that U.S. forces would not leave the country until those of other Powers also left.

May 5.—Wide-spread strikes occurred in Vienna in protest against the food rations.

May 7.—The Foreign Minister, in a statement to Parliament on the Moscow Conference, said that the U.S.A. had discussed their draft treaty with the Government beforehand. The British had amended their draft which now held out hope of a satisfactory settlement, and Britain could be relied on to help with the major political issues of the

treaty. French claims had to be rejected as unjustified, and he thought both France and Britain had overlooked the fact that a prosperous Austria would yield them 10 times the profits that could be squeezed out of an Austrian economy burdened by restitution claims. The U.S.S.R. had supported the Government in opposing military supervision and suggesting an early abolition of control bodies, but they had supported the Yugoslav claims against Austria and had also introduced stiffer proposals in relation to German property in Austria. He declared that the treatment of Austria by the Allies was "much worse than that applied to Germany".

BOLIVIA. *May 3.*—An attempt was made in La Paz to overthrow the Government and restore the régime in power in July, 1946. Armed civilians attacked the Ministry of Defence and fired on the police and troops. The Minister of the Interior stated later that the Government had proofs implicating the leader of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement, Señor Estensoro, a former Minister of Finance, living in exile in Argentina.

BRAZIL. *May 7.*—Following a Government petition, the supreme electoral tribunal ruled by 3 votes to 2 that the Communist Party was illegal.

CANADA. *April 26.*—The Prime Minister returned to Ottawa after a holiday in the U.S.A. On his way home he visited Washington as the guest of the U.S. Government.

April 29.—The Minister of Finance presented the Budget. Revenue for the year 1946-47 amounted to \$2,984 million, and expenditure to \$2,632 million. The surplus of \$352 million arose from the sale of war assets and refunds from previous years' outlays. Expenditure on national defence amounted to \$376 million and the estimate for this for 1947-48 showed a decrease of \$113 million. After allowing for an average reduction in income tax of 29 per cent, the estimated surplus for 1947-48 was \$190 million.

May 1.—The Prime Minister outlined to the House of Commons the Government's immigration policy. A short term programme which was limited by lack of transport was now in force and emphasis had to be laid on the admission of relatives of persons already in the country, and the settlement of displaced persons and refugees. It was intended to modify the conditions of entry for British and U.S. nationals, who would then only be required to meet certain standards of health and character and show that they were not likely to become public charges. As for the long term programme, the Government was in favour of a definite move to enlarge the population, now about 12 million. Speaking of immigration from Asiatic countries, he said it was not proposed to make a fundamental alteration in the character of the population.

CHINA. *April 22.*—M. Molotov's reply to Mr. Marshall's letter on Korea. (*see U.S.S.R.*)

It was reported that Communist forces had occupied Kuwo, an important railway town in Southern Shansi.

April 23.—The new State Council took office and approved the Cabinet presented by the Prime Minister, among whose members were: Vice Premier, Mr. Wan Yun-wu; Foreign Minister, Dr. Wang Shih-chieh; Secretary General, Mr. Kan Nai-kuan; the Interior, Mr. Chang Li-sheng; National Defence, Gen. Pai Chung-hsi; and Finance, Mr. O. K. Yui.

The Prime Minister, in a broadcast, said that the first needs of China were internal stability and unity. The Government was forced to take effective military measures to quell rebellion, but he hoped they would soon achieve national unity by political means.

May 1.—The Minister of National Defence told the Legislative Yuan that the size of the Communist forces was estimated at 820,000.

May 4.—It was reported that the Communists had captured Tangyin, on the Peking-Hankow railway in northern Honan.

CYPRUS. *April 22.*—A committee of Jewish immigrants met the director of the U.S. joint distribution committee and a member of the Jewish Agency and decided to cease the hunger strike.

April 26.—The Colonial Secretary, speaking to newspaper editors in Nicosia, said that the Government would no longer tolerate the excesses of certain papers in the island which had been pursuing a campaign of abuse against the British administration. While the Government welcomed criticism, it could no longer ignore the use of the press for propaganda purposes to incite disorder and undermine the machinery of government, and where the press was so used he would have no hesitation in using his power under Section 5 of the press laws (which empowered the Government to suspend or suppress a newspaper).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. *April 21.*—Rudolf Beran, former Prime Minister, and General Syrový, former Defence Minister, were both sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for collaboration with Germany.

April 24.—Harold Wiesmann, former head of the Lidice district, was sentenced to death with 5 others for the destruction of the village.

Arrival of Parliamentary delegation in London. (*see Great Britain.*)

EGYPT. *April 20.*—British troops going on leave from the Sudan were turned back at the Egyptian frontier. It was stated in Cairo that no British, Sudanese, or Eritrean troops would be allowed to travel through the country.

May 7.—The Minister of Finance stated in Cairo that the Government would demand full payment of war debts from Britain. He also announced that they had asked the U.S.A. for a loan of \$88 million to stabilize the currency.

FINLAND. *April 27.*—The President ratified the peace treaty with Britain and the U.S.S.R. (The House of Representatives had approved the treaty in January, 1947.)

FRANCE. *April 21.*—Arrangement with British and U.S. Governments on coal exports from Germany. (*see Germany.*)

April 23.—The Cabinet decided on two new measures to balance the Budget, in which estimated expenditure was 612,000 million francs and estimated revenue 590,000 million. These were: (1) a uniform reduction of the year's expenditure in all Government departments of 7 per cent (the reduction in 1947 would have to be realized in 6 months); and (2), a tax of over 100 per cent on the price of petrol bought without ration tickets.

April 24.—Gen. de Gaulle, in a press conference to answer questions on his new movement, spoke of the French people as developing "a common feeling and a common spirit" in the face of their immense difficulties. To become a motive force this new feeling needed a framework that political parties could not provide, and it was the aim of the Rally to provide this framework. When enough groups had been formed in the country, a national council would be formed and a policy framed. The Rally was not a political party and still less a single party, and its purpose was to organize a more real and efficient democracy.

April 25.—A strike began in the (State controlled) Renault works for higher pay, led by the Confederation of Christian Workers and the Socialists in the C.G.T. as a revolt against the Communist leadership of the C.G.T.

April 29.—The C.G.T. intervened in the strike and induced the management to grant most of the workers' demands. It then told the men to go back.

The Government, in its reply to the British request for help in checking illegal emigration to Palestine, stated that it would exercise a stricter control over the movements of ships in all ports. It pointed out, however, that many immigrants embarked at Mediterranean ports outside French control. It agreed to a stricter control of visas and passports and asked for full co-operation from all nations concerned.

Agreement to send gold to Britain. (*see Great Britain.*)

April 30.—The Renault strike spread, involving some 30,000 men. The Metal Workers' Union and the Communist Party supported the claim for higher wages (10 frs. a day), on the ground that the reductions of prices ordered by the Government had not led to any reduction of the cost of living.

M. Ramadier, in a broadcast, appealed urgently to the workers to realize that the maintenance of purchasing power was far more important than increases in wage rates.

The Government lodged a protest with Britain against the decision "as reported in the press" to hand over the administration of the German mines to German authorities as from May 1, 1947. They considered that any such decision should be taken collectively by the 4 occupying Powers and feared that if the management of the mines were placed in German hands, output would fall and their share of production would be endangered.

May 2.—The Renault workers decided, by a vote, to continue the strike.

M. Ramadier asked the Assembly for a vote of confidence, defining the question at issue as being the maintenance or rejection of the wage and price policy on which he had taken office in January. He claimed that the forced reduction of prices introduced by M. Blum had achieved "happy results", and forecast that the rejection of that policy might mean the collapse of the franc and the undermining of the republican régime.

May 4.—The Government received a vote of confidence by 360 votes to 186, only the Communists voting against the motion. M. Ramadier announced that he would remain in office, and his action was supported by the executive committee of the Socialist Party. M. Thorez stated that the Communist Ministers in the Government proposed to remain in office. A Cabinet meeting was afterwards held at which the decrees appointing 4 of the 5 Communist Ministers were revoked. The fifth Minister, a member of the Council of the Republic, later resigned. Provisional appointments were made to fill the vacant posts.

The C.G.T. voted one million francs in support of the strikers in the Renault works. The demand of the strikers for a production bonus was supported by the Steel Workers' Union.

May 6.—The National Council of the Socialist Party discussed the decision taken at their party congress in December, that they would not take part in any coalition Government of which the Communists were not members or in the majority supporting it. M. Ramadier declared that, if the party wished it, he would sign his letter of resignation to the President, but that in doing so he would feel he was signing the resignation of the Republic.

Steelworkers in other parts of the country went on strike for production bonuses.

May 7.—The Socialist National Council revoked by 2,529 "block votes" to 2,125 their previous decision that they would not take part in a coalition Government without the Communists. The Council later passed a resolution stating that the Party would in no circumstances consent to take part in a coalition which, under the pretext of anti-Communism, might lead to the creation of two antagonistic factions and so divide the workers of the country. They would not remain in a Government supported by a reactionary majority. The members of the Party in the Government were instructed to keep in close touch with the trade unions.

The Finance Minister informed the Finance Commission of the Assembly that the Government had been granted a loan of \$250 million from the World Bank. He announced he had balanced the 1947-48 Budget by reducing Government expenditure by 21,942 million francs. Military expenditure, estimated at 180 milliard francs exceeded that amount by 36 milliard francs because of operations in Indo-China.

May 9.—In a debate in the Assembly on Madagascar, the Minister of Oversea Territories said that the revolt had never involved more than one-twelfth of Madagascar and that the Government now held all the towns except Vaipeno. They had lost 130 men in the fighting. A

proposal by the Communists to send a parliamentary committee of inquiry to the island was defeated.

The strike in the Renault works ended, after a secret ballot.

The Prime Minister appointed M. Daniel Mayer as Minister of Labour; M. Thomas, Posts and Telegraphs; M. Prigent, Public Health; and M. Béchard, Secretary of State attached to the Prime Minister's office. M. Letourneau, the Minister of Commerce, also took over the Ministry of Reconstruction, which had been held by a Communist. M. Teitgen, the Deputy Premier and Minister of State, took over the duties exercised by M. Thorez, of which the chief was the reform of the civil service.

The Cabinet now contained 12 Socialist, 6 M.R.P. members, 5 of the Socialist-Radicals and affiliated groups, and 2 Right-wing independents.

GERMANY. *April 21.*—The British, U.S., and French Governments issued a joint announcement that an arrangement had been made to fix the proportion of exports from their zones to the European coal importing countries for a 6 months period, starting July 1, 1947. It stated that exports would be fixed in terms of percentages of net merchantable coal production beginning at 21 when the daily output of hard coal in the western zones reached 280,000 tons a day, and rising to 25 when it reached 370,000 tons a day. The arrangement would be subject to review at the end of 1947. It was also agreed that when the economic incorporation of the Saar with France had been decided, a joint notification would be made to the European Coal Organization, stating that France would in future present to them both the resources and needs of France and the Saar as a whole, and requesting that this new situation be taken into account.

April 22.—August Ruhke, former deputy commander of Kaufbeuren concentration camp, was sentenced to death by a U.S. military court at Dachau for his part in killing thousands of prisoners.

The results of the elections in the British zone were that in the 3 *Landtage* the Social Democrats gained 173 seats, the Christian Democrats 144, the Communists 36, and other parties 70.

April 25.—Mr. Marshall arrived in Berlin on his way home and in a press conference said an important result of the Moscow Conference was the clarification of the issues facing the 4 countries. He was disappointed that greater progress had not been made, although he thought there were too many issues involved in drawing up the German treaty for a settlement to be reached in such preliminary discussions as those in Moscow. He thought that the U.S. and French views had come closer together during the conference, and that the differences between the Western democracies and Russia had been neither increased nor decreased, but that they now understood what those differences were.

April 29.—The Deputy Military Governor of the British zone, in a statement discussing the Moscow conference, reviewed the progress made with regard to demilitarization and denazification, and said they

had been nearly completed. The Control Council was studying the possibility of fixing a date for the completion of denazification. Democratization was a different matter; it was difficult for the four Powers even to define, let alone assess the progress made in this direction. M. Molotov's scheme for the future political structure of Germany was very close to the British plan, and he thought complete agreement on the form of government for Germany would be reached at the next session of the Foreign Ministers. The situation was deteriorating, and this was having a marked effect on the German people. The main aims of the British zone would be to encourage economic revival, to improve the supply and distribution of food, and to increase exports. They must foster the growth of true democratic thought and provide the leadership which at the moment the four Powers could not collectively give.

May 2.—Three women members of the Ravensbrück camp staff were hanged in Hamelin.

May 3.—Five men sentenced to death for their part in the atrocities at the Ravensbrück camp were hanged in Hamelin.

May 6.—Field Marshal Kesselring was sentenced by a British military court in Venice to be shot for his part in the massacre of Italian civilians at the Ardeatine Caves and for inciting his troops to ruthless acts against partisans.

Agitation was reported in the Ruhr against a cut just made in the weekly bread ration from 2,500 to 1,500 grammes. It was hoped to make good the difference later. The Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia and the leader of the Christian Democratic Union complained to Control Commission, who replied that the distribution of food was a German responsibility, and that the cut had been made against their advice.

May 7.—Many workers in Hamburg staged stay-in strikes as a protest against food shortages and the introduction of double-summer time.

May 9.—A general strike of all workers except those dealing with food was organized in Hamburg, and some 150,000 persons demonstrated against the inadequacy of the food supplies. Trade union leaders, addressing large crowds, demanded that Hamburg and the Ruhr should be declared distressed areas, and that the trade unions should take part in the collection and distribution of food. They afterwards told the press that the demonstration was not a political one, and declared: "Famine knows no politics." Similar demonstrations took place in Hanover.

Lord Pakenham, who was visiting Düsseldorf, told the German press: "In the last resort German recovery will depend on the efforts of the German people. There must be no self-righteousness on our side, and no self-pity on the part of the Germans."

May 10.—The indictment of 12 German generals including List and von Weichs was filed with the American military tribunal at Nuremberg.

GREAT BRITAIN. *April 21.*—The first group of displaced persons

from the British zones of Germany and Austria who had volunteered for work in essential industries arrived in London.

Arrangement with the French and U.S. Governments for coal exports from Germany. (*see Germany.*)

April 22.—It was stated in London that the Government were not prepared to receive into their zone of Germany Germans expelled from former German territory since taken over by Poland.

The U.S. Ambassador, in a speech at the Pilgrims' dinner, pointed to the ties which bound the two countries together. The belief in the individual as the central figure in the orbit of society, as the master and not the slave, was one of the most important "golden coins of our common moral currency". Speaking of the huge task of reconstruction that faced the world, the problems of restoring economic activity and establishing peace, he declared that the U.S.A., with their continental tradition and absorption in internal issues, might well have demurred from sharing the burdens of others. "But the rude shock of experience, the knowledge that modern war and the enjoyment of freedom are incompatible have enlightened our national understanding, and quickened our national consciousness of the responsibilities that are inescapably associated with our newly acquired authority . . . If we now grasp the nettle of authority it is not because we have designs to press our will on others . . . It is rather because we are no less determined than you that by diligence and friendliness, patience and firmness, peace shall begin to emerge out of the dark chaos caused by war. Nor do we participate in the difficult task with any lesser faith than yours that by supporting, reinforcing, and nourishing the United Nations it will at last achieve a position . . . to fulfil the promise which it holds." This support was evident in the case of the proposed U.S. aid to Greece and Turkey. This scheme was being voluntarily submitted to the United Nations, and the U.S.A. was waiving its right to veto any decision made. The programme would be abandoned should either country, through any freely elected Government, indicate a wish to terminate it.

He continued: "My country seeks no other people's lands. She wishes to oppress no man; she desires that no man against his will shall be oppressed by others. She hopes for peace. She will continue to strive for peace." They hoped to aid in establishing an economic environment under appropriate political auspices, in which peace would become a permanent feature. "In this enterprise we seek your company. We welcome all who are of like mind." He considered the present plight of Britain as a passing phase. Historians had before declared that England's sun was setting for ever and had been proved wrong. He felt sure that the British love of freedom, combined with the energy and resolution "which have pulled you through so many difficult situations before . . . will carry you toward a satisfying and splendid future as surely as they contributed to your fruitful past." They would find in the U.S.A. a sympathetic friend. "We together are the greatest sanctuaries of popular government. One may not last long without the other. Our need for you is therefore no less than your need of us."

April 23.—Statement that the Government were unable to accept the draft International Wheat Agreement. (*see International Conferences.*)

The First Lord of the Admiralty, in a speech in the House of Lords, said he considered the methods adopted by those responsible for illegal immigration into Palestine as criminal. There were often 3 persons on board to every gross registered ton of shipping, and had it not been for the help of the Navy, many of the ships would have sunk. Since Britain had held the mandate the Jewish population in Palestine had risen from about 80,000 to 700,000. Asked whether in the event of the United Nations taking a decision the Government would be free to say they would not carry it out because they disapproved of it, he said he could not imagine the Government carrying out a policy of which they did not approve.

April 24.—Notes from Yugoslavia on Yugoslav refugees. (*see Yugoslavia.*)

April 25.—The Czechoslovak Parliamentary delegation of 10 Deputies headed by the President of the Constituent National Assembly arrived for a visit at the invitation of the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Statement by Mr. Bevin. (*see U.S.S.R.*)

April 27.—The Government sent a further Note to Yugoslavia, protesting against the action of a Yugoslav prize court in allocating to that country 9 Italian merchant ships, including the liner *Rex*.

April 28.—Note from Poland on demobilization of Polish troops. (*see Poland.*)

April 29.—Reply from France to the Government's request for help in checking illegal Jewish emigration. (*See France*)

Reply from U.S.A. to the Government's request to prevent money for the support of Jewish terrorists in Palestine being raised by newspaper advertisements. (*see U.S.A.*)

An agreement was reached with France for her to send £15 million in gold to balance the deficiency of that amount in the Anglo-French financial agreement of March 27, 1945, concluded on April 29, 1946.

April 30.—Protest from France on the reported decision to hand over the administration of the German mines as from May 1. (*see France.*)

Mr. Bevin, in a statement in the House of Commons, said that the Government had contributed £740 million in grants and credits towards world recovery. Of this amount £325 million had gone in non-recoverable expenditure, including contributions totalling £155 million to U.N.R.R.A., £275 million in repayable loans and credits, and £140 million to Germany. This last amount did not include the costs of occupation but represented the deficit between German exports and essential imports into the British zone.

May 6.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking in London to the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce, said that the country's war debts amounted nominally to £3,000 million. This vast sum represented an unreal, unjust, and insupportable burden. If lend lease and mutual aid had been applied among all the members of the Grand Alliance as they

were between the U.S.A. and the British Commonwealth, by far the greater part of these debts would never have been charged against Britain. He continued: "Sooner or later this mass must be very substantially scaled down. Britain is strong, but one sign of her strength must be refusal to take on fantastic commitments which are beyond her strength and beyond all limits of good sense and fair play." Unless this were done it would mean that the country would carry a crushing burden, which even the defeated enemies would escape.

May 9.—Sir Stafford Cripps, speaking in London, denied the Russian allegation that Britain derived some exclusive benefit by way of reparations from patents and knowledge acquired from Germany. "We have made the knowledge available," he said, "not to our own nationals only but to the world. The Russians benefit from it just as much as we do; this is made clear by the fact that the Russians have been the best and most consistent purchasers of reports on German production methods."

GREECE. *April 29.*—Army H.Q. in Larissa announced that they were now in control of an area of 4,000 sq. kilometres in the Pindus region. About 1,200 bandits in the area had been killed, captured, or had surrendered, and many were found to have died from exposure in the mountains.

May 4.—Government forces reported having cleared the Larissa-Trikkala-Jannina road. In the Agrafta area 1,500 bandits were stated to have been killed or captured and large quantities of supplies found.

The Ministry of Public Order, in a statement, said that a group of over 400 bandits raided a village in the Doirani district, killed 13 villagers, and carried off large numbers of sheep.

May 9.—The Foreign Minister received a Note from the British Ambassador stating that the British economic mission would be withdrawn on June 30.

HUNGARY. *April 26.*—The Government applied for membership of the United Nations Organization.

INDIA. *April 21.*—Pandit Nehru, addressing a United Provinces political conference of Congressmen, said the Muslim League could have Pakistan if they wished, but on condition that they did not take away other parts of India which did not wish to join. The Finance Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan (who was general secretary of the Muslim League) issued a statement describing Pandit Nehru's warning to the States about refusing to join the Constituent Assembly as "most thoughtless". He had no doubt the States would ignore the threats uttered against them, and added: "if the spirit of arrogance exhibited by Mr. Nehru is to be the guiding principle of Congress policy in the future, then God help those who may choose to cast in their lot with Congress".

Mr. Mondal, Law Minister and scheduled castes nominee of the Muslim League in the Government, told the press in Delhi that even in western Bengal caste Hindus formed only 37½ per cent of the non-

Muslim population, and the other 62½ per cent were mainly scheduled castes, who did not want to come under caste Hindu domination.

Communal violence broke out again in Calcutta on the lifting of the curfew at 6 a.m.

April 22.—The Government of the N.W. Frontier Province announced that 101 persons were killed and 25 injured in the Dera Ismail Khan district (omitting the city) up to April 20.

Veiled Muslim League women demonstrated at Peshawar radio station, breaking windows and doing other damage.

April 23.—The Viceroy received two Hindu leaders who advocated the partitioning of Bengal (one, a prominent member of the Hindu Mahasabha).

Calcutta Hindus observed a *hartal* in protest against alleged police excesses during the rioting. Shops were closed and transport services suspended. The police used tear-gas to disperse the crowds.

More arson and looting occurred in the Dera Ismail Khan and Bannu districts. In Peshawar a crowd of about 40,000 people blocked the streets all day despite the use of tear-gas by the police. The demonstrators shouted slogans demanding Pakistan and the dismissal of the Red Shirt (Congress) Ministry of the Province.

April 24.—Mr. Jinnah issued a statement saying that, as a result of his talks with the Viceroy "a first step has been taken by the N.W. Frontier Government in announcing, first, their decision to release unconditionally all political prisoners as soon as conditions permit, and, secondly, that they have no intention of interfering with the freedom of expression of political opinion or with peaceful meetings; but processions and picketing cannot be permitted until normal conditions return . . ." He also said that as a result of his talks with the Viceroy, "I feel that he is determined to play fair".

Further cases of stabbing occurred in Delhi, and the 24-hour curfew was continued. 70 people were arrested for failing to observe it.

April 25.—The district magistrate in Delhi ordered the police to fire, after warning, on looters and persons committing arson or assault. In Lahore the police fired on university students demonstrating for the postponement of the May examinations and killed one. The students then declared a strike in protest against the firing.

April 26.—Serious rioting occurred in Calcutta, and a 35-hour curfew was imposed on part of the city.

The Governor of the N.W. Frontier Province attended a tribal gathering of chieftains at Shabkadar. They declared that they resented the British Government's action in handing control of the tribal areas to a Hindu Minister for External Affairs (Pandit Nehru) and objected to the Congress composition of the Constituent Assembly's advisory committee on the tribal areas. They also protested against Hindu atrocities in Bihar and elsewhere. In Peshawar several ringleaders of the demonstrators "courted arrest" and were taken into custody.

April 27.—In Cawnpore 7 persons were killed in rioting between Hindus and Muslims, and in Calcutta 18 incidents were reported, including 5 cases of bomb throwing.

April 28.—The Viceroy visited Peshawar and greeted a gathering of some 60,000 Greenshirts (Muslim League supporters) in a park outside the city. He then received frontier officials and attended a meeting of the Congress Ministry, to which he explained the British Government's policy. Later he received the leaders of the Muslim League, including the Pir Sahib, who were in gaol, having refused to avail themselves of the Frontier Government's amnesty.

The third session of the preliminary meeting of the Constituent Assembly opened in Delhi, and was attended by representatives of Baroda, Bihar, Cochin, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Patiala, Rewa, and Udaipur. The President stated that they must be prepared not only for a division of India, but for a division of some provinces, and they might have to draw up a constitution based on such divisions. If the proposed Union was not to comprise all the provinces the Assembly would have to be content with devising a constitution for part of it.

Communal fighting broke out again at Dacca, and a curfew was proclaimed.

April 29.—The Viceroy, addressing a Jirga of all the Afridi tribes of the Khyber Agency, said he was glad they realized that the British were vacating India by June, 1948 because it was up to the tribes to negotiate fresh agreements with the succession authorities. They could count on him to help them in this. The tribes' spokesman pointed out that their treaties were with the British Government, and in the event of Britain vacating India the Khyber Pass should be returned to the tribes. Their sympathy was with their Muslim brethren and their demand for Pakistan. He made it clear that the Afridis would have no dealings with any advisory committee of the Constituent Assembly unless it was fully representative of the Muslim League as well as the Congress. The tribes would refuse to negotiate any agreement with Hindus only; Hindus and Muslims must first reach an understanding.

The Viceroy reminded them that he had been striving to bring an end to the communal tension, and hoped he might count on their support in this. "Your Jirga," he said, "has a reputation for wisdom and foresightedness, and for the past 16 years you have behaved well and stuck to your agreements. In this critical time, when power has to be handed over, do not lose that reputation."

In Calcutta 6 people were killed and many injured in rioting, and the police had to fire. A 35-hour curfew was imposed in the disturbed areas.

The Constituent Assembly discussed the report of the Fundamental Rights Committee, and accepted the recommendation that "untouchability in any form is abolished and the imposition of any disability on that account shall be an offence".

April 30.—Mr. Attlee's statement regarding compensation to officers of the civil and military services leaving India. (*see Great Britain.*)

Mr. Jinnah issued a statement declaring that Pakistan meant a separate State for all areas included in groups B and C of the Cabinet Mission's plan (Sind, the Punjab, the N.W. Frontier Province, Baluchi-

stan, Bengal, and Assam). Anything less would be only a "truncated, or mutilated, moth-eaten Pakistan". He also demanded the division of India's defence forces before June, 1948.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad (President of the Constituent Assembly), in a statement, pointed out that the Muslim League, at its session in Lahore in 1940, passed a resolution favouring the division of India into zones based on "geographically contiguous units demarcated into regions so constituted . . . that the areas in which Muslims numerically are in the majority should be grouped to constitute independent States".

May 2.—The Bengal Government asked for military help in 7 police station areas of Calcutta. Official figures for casualties in the rioting since March 25 were given as 148 killed and 963 injured. In an industrial suburb 2 Muslim policemen were shot, one fatally.

Sir Khizar Hayat Khan, ex-Premier of the Punjab, issued a statement denouncing the proposed partition of the province since it would "prove extremely detrimental to the interests of all communities and classes in the province and would reverse the process of progressive, beneficent development which has been carried on these past 25 years".

May 3.—The formation was announced of the "Indian National Trade Union Congress", whose affiliated unions were to secede from the existing Trade Union Congress. The object of its leaders (prominent Congress members and trade unionists) was to counteract the growing ascendancy of the Communist Party in industrial labour organizations.

The Dewan of Travancore State stated that the ideal of a united India was impracticable in existing circumstances, and Travancore must therefore retain its independence.

May 4.—The Muslim League leaders temporarily released from Peshawar gaol, headed by the Pir Sahib of Manki Sharif, had discussions with Mr. Jinnah and two League members of the interim Government.

May 6.—Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah met in Delhi, and Mr. Jinnah then issued a statement, with Mr. Gandhi's approval, saying they had discussed the question of Pakistan, "and Mr. Gandhi does not accept the principle of division. He thinks that division is not inevitable, whereas in my opinion not only is Pakistan inevitable but this is the only practical solution of India's political problem". They also discussed the joint letter making an appeal for peace, and had "both come to the conclusion that we must do our best in our respective spheres to see that that appeal of ours is carried out. . . ."

The formation was announced of a new party in the N.W. Frontier Province called the Young Pathans, a branch of the Redshirt Party. Its members were armed and were reported to believe in "violent defence".

May 7.—Mr. Jinnah, after prolonged discussions with Muslim League leaders from the N.W. Frontier Province, announced that he could not advise the frontier leaders to call off their civil disobedience movement because, though the Redshirt Ministry had ordered the release of political prisoners, the root cause of the trouble remained, and

the Muslim League's demands had not been met. He appealed to Muslims to avoid violence, and said, "in no circumstances should the movement be allowed to take a communal turn. Our fight is not against the Hindus or Sikhs; we are fighting for a true verdict of the people of the Frontier Province, to be obtained by fair and free methods". He alleged that the Redshirt Ministry denied civil liberties and rights of political expression to the people, whose resentment had led to the arrest of the Muslim League leaders, and the movement assumed a character of mass civil disobedience.

The Governor of the Punjab imposed a fine of 30 lakhs (£22,500) on the Muslims of the Rawalpindi district.

May 9.—Communal disturbances in Amritsar led to all banks, shops, etc. being closed and a curfew imposed.

May 10.—Nine people were killed in Amritsar. It was announced in Simla that the Viceroy had invited Pandit Nehru, Mr. Jinnah, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, and Sardar Baldev Singh to meet him in Delhi, and had also invited the representatives of Indian States who were on the States' negotiating committee to meet him on the same afternoon. The purpose of the meetings was "to present to them the plan which his Majesty's Government have now made for the transfer of power to Indian hands". The date of the meeting was June 2.

IRAQ. *May 4.*—The terms of a proposed 10-year treaty of alliance with Transjordan were announced, which was to provide for the exchange of military missions, joint military training, and for mutual aid in the event of aggression by a third party.

ITALY. *May 3.*—The Cabinet decided to increase the salaries of all civil servants by 15 per cent, involving a charge on the Budget of some 14,000 million lire. (The civil servants had threatened a national strike.)

May 7.—The Government applied for admission to the United Nations Organization, pointing out that their foreign policy was directed according to the principles of the Charter, on which also Articles 5 and 6 of the new Constitution were based.

JAPAN. *April 23.*—It was announced in Tokyo that a recent conference of the economic and scientific section at Allied H.Q. had decided to invite 400 Allied business men to visit the country to further trade.

April 25.—The elections to the new Diet took place. Of the 466 seats, the Social Democrats secured 143, the Liberals 133, and the Democrats 126. A quarter of the electorate did not vote.

May 3.—The new Constitution entered into force.

KENYA. *May 2.*—The Government published a revised Bill for the regulation of immigration. Capital requirements of immigrants were reduced, and arrangements for the return of former residents were improved.

MADAGASCAR. *May 6.*—Further fighting was reported in which the insurgents attacked rail and road communications, suffering considerable losses.

PALESTINE. *April 21.*—Terrorists attacked army cars with grenades in Jerusalem. Two terrorists, Feinstein, who was condemned to death for attacking Jerusalem station in Oct. 1946, and Barazani, who was condemned for carrying grenades, committed suicide in prison in Jerusalem. They blew themselves up shortly before the time fixed for their execution. Four large mines were found in an abandoned lorry at Petah Tiqva, and more explosives in Haifa.

April 22.—Terrorists wrecked the Cairo-Haifa train by mining the track near Rehoboth. 5 British soldiers and 3 civilians were killed and 40 persons injured. Grenades were thrown at soldiers in Jerusalem.

April 23.—The *Galata*, also known as *Hashear Yishuv*, carrying 771 illegal immigrants was brought into Haifa. A naval boarding party met with strong resistance and 3 naval men and 12 Jews were injured. The immigrants were transferred to two ships and taken to Cyprus.

The High Commissioner received Mr. Ben Gurion. A mine exploded near an army lorry in Jaffa, injuring 4 soldiers, and another in Tel-Aviv injured 3 soldiers. Forged £5 notes to the amount of £10,000, together with dies for printing them were found in Jerusalem.

April 25.—Terrorists parked a stolen post office van beside the police station at Saron, near Tel Aviv, where it later exploded, blowing up part of the building and killing a British inspector and 3 British constables and injuring 5 others.

April 26.—Superintendent Conquest, Chief of the Haifa C.I.D., was shot and killed in Haifa by 2 young Jews, who escaped in a taxi.

April 27.—The Jewish Agency announced that it had opened a new campaign against terrorism, mainly directed to the youth of the community. It proposed to send youth leaders into the poorer quarters of the towns, especially Jerusalem, and by "systematic education" improve the character of youth clubs and groups controlling the activities of Jewish youths. Special anti-terrorist supplements were published by papers on the basis of material supplied by the Agency.

The Government informed the Mayor of Tel Aviv that postal facilities for the town would be withdrawn if any post office vehicle were stolen within the Tel Aviv area.

April 28.—Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly to discuss Palestine. (see page 000.)

April 28.—French reply to British request for help in checking illegal emigration. (see *France*.)

May 4.—Terrorists blew up buildings next to the prison at Acre, breaching the prison wall. Of the 613 inmates, 33 Jews and 183 Arabs escaped. 15 Jews and 1 Arab were killed in the fighting and 8 British soldiers wounded. Six of the dead Jews were believed to have been among the attackers.

Six bombs were thrown into an army camp north of Acre. Five terrorists were killed on the road to Acre when they attacked British troops.

May 5.—The Jewish Agency condemned the attack on Acre prison on the ground that it had let loose criminals upon the community.

The curfew in Jerusalem was completely lifted.

May 6.—Sixteen escaped Arab prisoners were re-captured.

May 7.—Mr. Ben Gurion left for New York.

May 9.—The Government announced that any prisoner who escaped from Acre who reported to the police station before midnight on May 16 would not be prosecuted.

May 11.—Fifty Jews suspected of terrorism were sent to Kenya by air.

PARAGUAY. *April 29.*—It was reported that street fighting was taking place in Asuncion and that the Government's position was precarious.

PERSIA. *May 7.*—Reports reached Teheran stating that Russian terrorists were crossing the frontier into Azerbaijan, and Tabriz radio said that the Governor-General of Azerbaijan had promised to "watch the situation carefully".

POLAND. *April 22.*—The Government announced that it was determined to expel the remaining Germans (estimated at 400,000) in their newly acquired territories.

British refusal to accept in their zone of Germany Germans expelled from Poland. (*see Great Britain.*)

April 28.—The Government, in a Note dated April 15, asked Britain for "an early and final date" for the dissolution of Polish armed forces under British command in Britain and elsewhere. It pointed out that the existing rate of release fell short of earlier British assurances, and stated that 10,000 men were still in the Middle East and 3,000 in Italy.

PORTUGAL. *April 28.*—Following a request from Gen. Franco to the Government that certain advisers to Don Juan should be asked to leave Lisbon, Señores Rodriguez, Gil Robles, and Vejarano moved from the capital.

April 30.—The Government announced that a number of students had been arrested for having been "involved in activities against the security of the State". It stated that the Communists had encouraged "demonstrations of flagrant indiscipline".

RUMANIA. *April 25.*—It was learnt that many members of the Opposition parties had been arrested during the past two months. No reasons were given, and no evidence had been produced against the prisoners. The Minister of the Interior, on being questioned on this point by the Liberal Party, said he was acting on orders.

SIAM. *May 9.*—The Prime Minister announced that, following an exchange of Notes with the British Ambassador, the 1945 military agreement (under which Siam renounced all war-time territorial gains)

had been abrogated. The 1946 agreement (in which the Government declared as null and void all purported acquisitions of British territory made later than Dec. 1941) was also annulled.

SPAIN. *April 26.*—Gen. Franco, in an interview to the British press, said that the unjust attacks of the United Nations had resulted in the people expressing categorically and unequivocally their devotion to the Head of the State. The recent definition of the State together with the Bill of Succession should remove any impression that the existing régime was an interim one. The Bill gave official form to what he had been saying for 10 years. The only surprise in Spain had been the moment chosen for announcing such a measure. The reaction of the people had been very favourable, its only concern being lest he might abandon the leadership with which it had entrusted him during critical times. Only small groups, blind to the supreme interest of the country, disagreed. Referring to Don Juan's opposition to the Bill, he declared this was due to absolute ignorance of the situation and the needs of Spain and to deception and manœuvring of those who advised him. Asked whether the Bill would be submitted to the people for approval, he said nothing had yet been decided. The Bill was being studied by the Cortes. He referred to the fact that the press had been authorized to express freely its views on the Bill and said that comment had reached a high level. There were few limitations on the liberty of the press, but liberty must always harmonize with responsibility. Asked whether the unification of the parties in 1937 would be strictly adhered to, he said that there was no room within the Falange for ideological shades of opinion. It was a unifying national movement trying to unite all Spaniards in the service of the nation. The damage the country had suffered was so great that if they did not develop better understanding and unity, they were destined to perish. The Communist menace was becoming more widely appreciated, and because of this threat weakness and licence could not be allowed. He considered the most serious internal problem was the education of the people. A century of neglect and of political systems which did not suit them had produced a state of ignorance and internal conflicts. Every effort would be made to enlighten them and show them that their interests were also those of their country.

April 28.—It was reported that the Junta Nacional Tradicionalista de Navarra (the Requetes) had sent a petition to Gen. Franco protesting against the proposed Bill of Succession.

May 1.—Nearly 50,000 workers at Bilbao observed May Day despite of a ban imposed by the Government. The Governor of the province refused to allow the men to return to work, except after special application.

May 5.—The Bilbao workers refused to return to work unless the official measures were cancelled.

May 9.—A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the men on strike had now all returned to work.

TRANSJORDAN. *May 4.*—Terms of treaty with Iraq. (*see Iraq.*)

May 8.—A White Paper on post-war policy was published in which the establishment of a Greater Syria consisting of Transjordan, Syria, and Palestine, within the framework of the Arab League Charter, was foreshadowed.

May 10.—A convention was signed in Amman by the Prime Minister and the general manager of the Iraq Petroleum Company, giving to the Petroleum Development (Transjordan), Ltd. exclusive rights for the exploration and exploitation of petroleum in the country for 75 years.

TRIESTE FREE TERRITORY. *May 1.*—During May Day celebrations, 3 bombs were thrown at Communist processions and 40 people were injured in the demonstrations.

U.S.A. *April 21.*—Arrangement with British and French Governments on coal exports from Germany. (*see Germany.*)

April 22.—M. Molotov's reply to Mr. Marshall's letter on Korea. (*see U.S.S.R.*)

April 23.—The Senate approved the President's proposal for aid to Greece and Turkey by 67 votes to 23.

April 25.—Mr. Marshall's statement in Berlin. (*see Germany.*)

April 28.—The Secretary of Commerce, in a speech to the House of Representatives' committee on reciprocal trade, said the U.S. export trade could not be supported indefinitely through gifts and loans, although such assistance was justifiable during the reconstruction period. The U.S.A. must buy abroad not only raw materials but articles of foreign manufacture, and so permit other countries to obtain dollars with which to buy U.S. goods. One in 12 jobs in the country depended on the export trade.

Mr. Marshall, in a broadcast on the Moscow Conference, said that agreement on a German treaty was made impossible by the U.S.S.R. insisting on proposals that would have established a centralized German Government adapted to the seizure of absolute control of the country, which would be doomed economically. Germany would be mortgaged to turn over a large part of its production as reparations, mainly to the U.S.S.R. "Such a plan not only involved an indefinite U.S. subsidy but could result only in a deteriorating economic life in Germany and Europe and an inevitable emergence of dictatorship and strife." M. Stalin had told him it was possible that no great success would be achieved at this session, but thought that compromises were possible on all main questions. Mr. Marshall commented, "I sincerely hope the Generalissimo is correct and that it implies a greater spirit of co-operation by the Soviet delegation in future conferences." The time factor could not, however, be ignored. The recovery of Europe had been slower than had been expected. Disintegrating forces were becoming evident. The patient was sinking while the doctors deliberated. Action could not wait compromise through exhaustion but must be taken without delay. Discussing the action of the U.S.S.R. during the conference, he said that charges were made by that delega-

tion and an interpretation given to Potsdam and other agreements which varied completely from the facts as understood or as factually known by the U.S. delegation. He thought, however, that despite the disagreements referred to and the difficulties encountered, greater progress towards a final settlement was made than was realized. Critical differences were, for the first time, brought into the light, and now stood clearly defined so that future negotiations could start with the knowledge of exactly what the issues were that must be settled.

Mr. Marshall then dealt with each of the "fundamental problems whose solutions would probably lead to quick adjustment of many other differences". Speaking of the European coal shortage and the need for rehabilitating the German mines, he said the settlement of these matters had become a critical issue for France. Britain, the U.S.S.R., and neighbouring States were directly affected in various ways, since coal was required for German production of goods for export sufficient to enable her to buy the necessary imports of food, for much of which the U.S.A. were now paying. There was also the important consideration that the re-building of German heavy industry might later threaten peace. With regard to the relationship of the German question to Europe as a whole, he declared that this question involved not only the security of Europe and the world, but the prosperity of all Europe. While their mission was to consider the terms of a treaty to operate over a long term of years, they were faced with immediate issues which vitally concerned the impoverished people of Europe. These issues also vitally concerned Britain and the U.S.A., who could not afford to continue subsidizing German economy when no effective measures were being taken to make it self-supporting. He did not agree with the Soviet idea of a strong central Government for the country. Both Britain and the U.S.A. were opposed to this because they thought it could be too readily converted to domination by a régime similar to the Nazis; there were great and justifiable fears regarding the resurrection of German military power.

Speaking of the character of the German economic system and its relation to Europe, he said the disagreements on these points were even more serious and difficult to adjust. "One of the most serious difficulties encountered has been the fact that the Soviet-occupied zone has operated practically without regard to other zones, and has made few, if any, reports of what has been occurring in that zone. This unwillingness of the Soviet authorities to co-operate in establishing a balanced economy for Germany, as agreed upon at Potsdam, has been the most serious check on the development of a self-supporting Germany." He declared that the Soviet attacks on the merger of the British and U.S. zones ignored the "plain fact that their refusal to carry out the Potsdam agreement was the sole cause of the merger". He continued: "It is difficult to regard their attacks as anything but propaganda designed to divert attention from the Soviet failure to implement the economic unity agreed at Potsdam." On the question of reparations, he did not believe that reparations from current production were contemplated by the Potsdam agreement, as the Russians held, or that such repara-

tions were authorized by agreements at Yalta. He considered that the results of such a scheme would be a long delay in German economic recovery, and it would also mean that the U.S. plan for a self-supporting German economy in 3 years could not be achieved.

Dealing with the Polish frontier line, Mr. Marshall pointed out that if the existing temporary Oder-Neisse line were decided on, the result would be to deprive Germany of territory which before the war provided one-fifth of her food. It would not help Poland to give her frontiers which would create disorder later on: a democratic Poland and a democratic Germany must be good neighbours. With reference to the peace treaty procedure, he said: "The U.S.A. regards it as imperative that all States that were at war with Germany should have some voice in the settlement imposed on Germany." Speaking of the U.S. proposal for a four-Power pact to guarantee continuance of the demilitarization of Germany, he said the Soviet Government had put up a series of amendments which would have completely changed its character. He was "forced to the conclusion that the U.S.S.R. Government either did not desire such a pact or was following a course calculated to delay any immediate prospect of its adoption."

Of the draft Austrian treaty, he believed that the attitude taken by the U.S.S.R. Government in its demand for the transfer of German assets would, if accepted, "mean that such a large portion of the Austrian economy would be removed from her legal control that Austria's chances of surviving as an independent self-supporting State would be dubious. She would, in effect, be but a puppet State". As regards the U.S. policy adopted at Moscow he said, "We must not compromise on great principles in order to achieve agreement for agreement's sake. Also, we must sincerely try to understand the point of view of those with whom we differ."

He concluded by emphasizing the bi-partisan character of the support given to the U.S. delegation, and added "The state of the world to-day and the position of the U.S.A. make mandatory, in my opinion, unity of action on the part of the U.S. people."

April 29.—The British Government was officially informed that under U.S. law no steps could be taken to prevent supporters of Jewish terrorist organizations in Palestine from using advertisements in the U.S. press to raise funds.

April 30.—The House of Representatives passed the Relief Bill providing for the distribution of \$200 million in Austria, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Poland, and China, and with special provision for Trieste. (The President had originally asked for \$350 million.)

May 1.—President Aleman of Mexico, addressing a joint session of Congress, spoke of the responsibility of the U.S.A. and Mexico to the people of the western hemisphere, not only for maintaining security, but for improving economic and cultural standards. He said the most powerful force to uphold democracy lay not in tanks and ordnance, but in the conviction of men who, when conflict finally broke out, would drive the tanks and fire the cannon.

May 3.—Mr. Stassen's interview with M. Stalin. (see U.S.S.R.)

May 5.—The State Department announced that the Government had submitted a draft agreement to Panama providing for a number of peace-time defence bases outside the canal zone. Representatives of the 2 Governments would administer the agreement jointly, but the U.S. Government would administer the bases.

May 6.—The Secretary of State told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that it was vital to U.S. foreign policy that the peace treaties with Italy and the Balkan countries should be ratified immediately. Failure by the Senate to act promptly would cause his efforts for a general European settlement "virtually to dissolve", since the world would lose all confidence in U.S. proposals and leadership. Non-ratification would be a very grave error which would start a "back-tracking" and would put the country on the same road towards isolationism as had been followed after 1920. The longer these treaties remained unratified the greater would the difficulties of his diplomatic negotiations become; in fact he did not know how he would proceed in such a case. He quoted a letter written to him by President Truman expressing the same views and pointing out that the inability to conclude an Austrian treaty in Moscow did not mean that ratification of these treaties would be inadvisable, and that the provisions of the treaties did not conflict with what he had told the joint session of Congress in proposing aid to Greece and Turkey. Mr. Truman in his letter added that the treaties represented the considered judgment of the "international community", and nothing had occurred to make that judgment unsound or unwise. It would be a great blow to the leadership of the U.S.A. in world affairs if she now unilaterally withheld her approval. Mr. Marshall added that his greatest problem in Moscow had been to avoid a policy of drift. He thought that if the Italian treaty were not promptly ratified, the situation in Trieste, already "explosive" would go from bad to worse. Ratification of this treaty would also strengthen the hand of the democracies in dealing with any possible aggression against Italy from Yugoslavia. He pointed out that the signatories of the Italian peace treaty "would have a very definite obligation to compel respect for the treaty".

May 8.—The Under-Secretary of State, in a speech in Cleveland, said that the effect on U.S. foreign policy of three basic facts of international life must be faced. These facts were (1) that most of the countries of Europe and Asia were in a state of physical destruction and economic dislocation; (2) that Germany and Japan, two of the greatest workshops of the two continents upon whose production other countries were to an important degree previously dependent, had been unable to begin reconstruction because there was no peace settlement; and (3) that the severe weather conditions during the past two years had played havoc with crops, reconstruction work, and industry. The disparity between production in the U.S.A., where the annual rate was \$210,000 million, and that of the rest of the world was staggering. For this reason the Government was carrying out an extensive relief and reconstruction programme and had contributed \$3,000 million to foreign relief. They had contributed \$6,000 million to the Interna-

tional Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund; they had increased by \$3,000 million the capacity of the Export-Import Bank to make loans; they had made a direct loan of \$3,750 million to Britain; they proposed to contribute \$500 million for reconstruction in the Philippines, and \$1,000 million to relief in occupied areas; and the President's programme of aid to Greece and Turkey would amount to \$400 million. The reasons for these measures were not purely humanitarian. The Government were carrying out a policy of relief chiefly as a matter of national self-interest. He continued "Until the various countries of the world get on their feet and become self supporting . . . there can be no lasting peace or prosperity for any of us."

The best contribution the U.S.A. could make towards world reconstruction would be in commodities. The exports for 1947 were estimated at \$16,000 million, roughly four times greater than in pre-war years, and imports were estimated at \$8,000 million. Of the difference between imports and exports for 1947, over \$5,000 million was being met by loans and grants from the Government, and the balance of the deficit would be covered by private investments, remittances of U.S. citizens abroad, and by drawing upon the very limited foreign reserves of gold and foreign exchange. In 1948 the extreme need of foreign countries for U.S. goods would continue, but their capacity to pay in commodities would only be very slightly increased. Under the existing organizations, considerable sums would be available to offset the 1948 deficit, but these funds would dwindle rapidly towards the end of that year.

The effect of these facts on U.S. foreign policy was that "the U.S.A. must take as large a volume of imports as possible from abroad in order that the financial gap between what the world needs and what it can pay for can be narrowed . . . There can never be any stability or security in the world for any of us until foreign countries are able to pay in commodities and services for what they need to import". The Government were anxious to see a reduction in trade barriers and wholeheartedly supported the International Trade Organization, because, apart from present difficulties, the position of the U.S.A. as the world's greatest producer and creditor nation demanded that for a long period they accept an ever larger volume of imports. He went on: "When the process of reconversion at home is completed, we are going to find ourselves far more dependent upon exports than before the war to maintain levels of business activity to which our economy has become accustomed".

He forecast that further loans would have to be made in the next 2 years and only the U.S.A. could bridge the gap both in commodities and dollars. World demand would exceed their ability to supply, and for this reason emergency assistance would have to be concentrated where it would be most effective in building world political and economic stability. He went on: "Free peoples who are seeking to preserve their independence, democratic institutions, and human freedoms against totalitarian pressures, either internal or external,

will receive top priority for American reconstruction aid." It was also essential to effect a larger measure of German recovery, and this must be done, even without full 4 Power agreement, since European recovery was dependent on improved conditions in Germany, and the same was true of Japan and Asia. The margins of human and national subsistence were extremely narrow, so narrow that a blizzard could threaten populations with starvation and nations with loss of independence. He concluded "It is one of the principal aims of our foreign policy today to use our economic and financial resources to widen these margins. It is necessary for our national security . . . it is our duty as human beings."

May 9.—The House of Representatives, by 287 votes to 107, approved the Bill to provide \$400 million in aid to Greece and Turkey. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved unanimously the ratification of the peace treaties with Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Hungary.

The World Bank announced the grant of a credit of \$250 million to France, to be spent on material for the reconstruction of industry. The loan was to run for 30 years with interest at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent plus 1 per cent going to the Bank as commission.

U.S.S.R. *April 22.*—M. Molotov replied to Mr. Marshall's letter of April 8 and agreed that the U.S.-Soviet commission in Korea should resume its efforts to form a provisional democratic government with July-August, 1947 as the date by which recommendations should be submitted to their two Governments. He also made proposals for speeding up the amalgamation of the two zones in Korea into a self-governing independent State.

Copies of the reply were sent to Mr. Bevin and the Chinese Ambassador in Moscow.

April 25.—Mr. Bevin, speaking to British correspondents, said that although the results of the Moscow Conference might seem disappointing, the Ministers had actually made more progress towards agreement than he had dared to hope beforehand. He stressed the enormous difficulties of their task in framing the German treaty. The country was heavily smashed, there was no Government with which they could deal, and no Constitution. In re-building this wreck, 3 things must be accomplished: (1) Germany must be re-established in such a form that she would never again menace Europe; (2) she must be rebuilt on a democratic basis with power vested in the people; (3) she must be given a level of industry in such a way that the people would have a reasonable standard of life without developing a war potential. The views of the 4 Powers differed widely, for example, on democracy, and a very fine balance had to be struck. The British view had been put forward in a comprehensive document on March 31.

Speaking of reparations, he said there were profound differences. "I do not wish to close my mind entirely to reparations from current production, but first things must come first." There must be economic

unity, sound political conditions, and the U.S.A. and Britain were entitled to get back their capital outlay in their zones. One thing that could not be allowed was the development of German economy by loans from the outside, as after 1918. He fully appreciated the extent of the terrible destruction suffered by the U.S.S.R., but they must clearly realize the economic situation which would result from reparations taken from current production at this time. Speaking of the elimination of German war potential in existing factories, he said they had agreed that outright war factories should be destroyed, but the elimination of factories which could serve both peace and war was more difficult until a new level of industry was decided.

On the question of the form of the German State, he said they had got away from slogans such as "federalism" and "centralism" and were intent on finding a form of government to suit Germany. He would prefer a form in which residual powers lay with the *Länder* and limited powers with the central Government. He thought this form might be agreed on at the next conference. Referring to the failure to agree on the U.S. proposal for a four-Power treaty, he said the U.S.A. had gone as far as they could, and he thought the U.S.S.R. had made a mistake in trying to introduce too many controversial matters into this first effort. The chief obstacle to the Austrian treaty was the problem of German assets to be taken as reparations. The Ministers had agreed to get down to a factual study of the problem and their committee of experts would soon start work in Vienna. In conclusion, he believed that the conference might well turn out to be a basis for building peace and security.

April 27.—*Izvestia*, commenting on the Moscow Conference, said that the 4 Powers had made great decisions and laid another stone in the foundations of a peaceful German State. Pointing out that problems of similar importance and complexity had probably never been tackled in the course of diplomatic negotiations, the statement declared that the solution of such problems required time and could not be completed at a single session of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The session in Moscow could have proved more useful to the common cause of the Allies had it not been for the efforts of certain delegations to revert again and again to stages already passed. The main differences revealed were on the question of the observance of the Crimea and Potsdam decisions on Germany. The U.S.S.R. insisted on the observance of these decisions and resisted the efforts, chiefly of the U.S. and British delegations, to depart from them. *Izvestia* continued "To this were also added attempts by these delegations to renounce the methods of agreed decisions. These attempts were made in order to resort repeatedly to the already bankrupt methods of settling international problems by some States imposing their will on others, which is characteristic of the universally known practice of the imperialistic Powers." The U.S.S.R. could have made concessions on some points if other Powers had made concessions on the question of reparations. Among the achievements of the conference were the abolition of the Prussian State, and the decisions taken on demilitarization, denazi-

fication, and democratization, which had been passed on to the Control Council for action.

April 29.—*Pravda*, commenting on world response to the Moscow conference, criticized those who were disappointed at the results. These people had expected a revision of the Potsdam and Yalta decisions "in order to clear the way towards the increasingly aggressive imperialist tendencies of some Powers". It declared that the correct view was that the conference showed that the way to peace "leads through the fulfilment of all the solemn obligations undertaken by the great Powers both during the war and after victory".

May 3.—The text of the interview given by M. Stalin to Mr. Harold Stassen on April 9 was published. M. Stalin pointed out the wide differences between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. systems, but added that they had not waged war against each other and the U.S.S.R. did not propose to do so. He continued "I want to bear testimony to the fact that Russia wants to co-operate". On the future of atomic energy, he said "There are big differences of views between us, but in the long run I hope that we shall come to an understanding. I think that international control and inspection will be established—things are leading up to it—and it will be of great importance. . . . The problem of the use of atomic energy for war purposes will, in the long run, be met by the consciences of the peoples, and it will be prohibited."

A State loan of 20,000 million roubles for reconstruction and development was announced, to be repaid during the next 20 years at the rate of 2 lottery draws a year.

May 5.—*Izvestia*, commenting on Mr. Marshall's broadcast of April 28, said his analysis of the Moscow conference was not in accordance with the facts, and continued: "he put the position of the Soviet delegation in a false light and distorted the meaning of the Soviet proposals. Putting all the blame for non-attainment of economic unity on the U.S.S.R., Mr. Marshall passed over the position of France on this question. France supports the U.S.S.R." It stated that he had misinformed the U.S. public on the substance of the disagreement on reparations. The U.S.S.R. wanted a four-Power treaty, "but wanted it to be a real guarantee of demilitarization and prevention of future aggression, and not just a formal document signed to calm public opinion". The attitude of both the U.S.A. and Britain towards Germany was determined by the narrow interests of separate monopolistic groups who regard Germany and the whole of Europe as a market for their capital. Such a position naturally could not lead to a successful solution of the many complicated questions facing the conference.

May 9.—*Izvestia* published an article, on the anniversary, in Russia, of the end of the war, claiming that "we saved not only ourselves; we saved Europe as well. Now victory is being appropriated by others, who would capitalize it as business to pay fat dividends. They did not hurry to arm themselves during the struggle . . . and now they are in no hurry to disarm. In fact, they are arming hastily . . . they spread talk of war. In blind fury they call for an onslaught on the Soviet Union."

Reply to Russian charges as to use of German patents by Britain. (see *Great Britain*.)

May 10.—*Pravda* reported that the British Government had decided to recruit in Germany and Austria up to 100,000 displaced persons for work in coal mines and agriculture. The British were thus hoping to undermine the natural and legitimate urge of the homeless to return to the land of their birth, and "this plan of mass recruitment of cheap labour is a plan to create a new class of serfs". Its creation would be a constant factor of pressure on the earning capacity of the British working class and on their conditions of labour.

YUGOSLAVIA. April 24.—The Government sent a Note to Britain and a further Note jointly to Britain and the U.S.A. demanding the immediate surrender of "quislings" either in or out of detention camps in Italy. They stated that nothing had been done for 2 years in spite of repeated requests, and rejected the contention that Allied military authorities in Italy were not responsible for Yugoslavs living outside camps.

April 26.—Marshal Tito, speaking to a joint session of the two Councils of the National Assembly, said that the Government was submitting to them a 5-year plan to cost the equivalent of £1,500 million for the industrialization and electrification of the country, and that unless this plan were carried out, they would not achieve economic independence. They could not be dependent on the capitalist countries, which had exploited their land in the past. A planned economy was now possible for them because the mines, industry, and all natural wealth were in the hands of the people. Some reactionaries, who were dreaming of the kind of aid being given to Greece and Turkey, hoped for a change of authority in the country and would try to ruin the plan, but their dreams would be disappointed.

THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE

April 21.—A few points in the Austrian treaty were agreed on, including the condition that Austria should accept "responsibility" for her participation in Hitler's wars, and that everyone suspected of war crimes or crimes against humanity would be handed over to the allies when the four Power representatives in Vienna were satisfied that there was good evidence against them. The Ministers went through the deputies' report, which showed they had agreed that Yugoslavia should have the right to seize or retain Austrian property in Yugoslavia within the limits of her claims and those of her nationals against Austria and Austrian nationals. M. Molotov said he could only accept this if the full Yugoslav right for reparations was not prejudiced, and Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall repeated that no reparations must be exacted from Austria.

The report of the four-Power financial commission (in Trieste in

January and February) was discussed, but without agreement. (The three Western members estimated that the Free Territory would have a deficit of some \$5 million in free foreign exchange during the period July-Sept., 1947.) Mr. Bevin proposed that U.N.O. should be asked to provide assistance in covering the deficit if asked to do so by the Trieste authorities. M. Molotov objected strongly, asking whether external assistance might not become external interference.

April 22.—On the Trieste deficit the Ministers agreed that if the Security Council received from the Governor and the provisional council of the Trieste Government a request for financial aid to cover urgent needs during July-Sept. the Council should recommend that up to \$5 million should be made available by U.N.O. They also agreed that until the new Customs régime was established goods of Italian and Yugoslav origin should be imported into the Free Territory without duties, provided Trieste goods were similarly allowed into Italy and Yugoslavia.

April 23.—Mr. Marshall pointed out that the Soviet Government had rejected the U.S. proposal for a four-Power treaty of guarantee against German rearmament, and had also insisted so stubbornly on its own definition of "German assets" in Austria that completion of the treaty had been rendered impossible. He proposed that in September, if it were still incomplete, the four Ministers should agree to submit it to the U.N. General Assembly under Art. 14 of the Charter, and ask for its recommendations.

M. Molotov said the fault for the failure to agree on a treaty of guarantee lay directly with the U.S. delegation itself; it had refused to consider the Soviet amendments and it was therefore the U.S.A. that had rejected the treaty.

Dealing with a report from the deputies for Germany setting out all the points of disagreement, the Ministers agreed that the report on "demilitarization, democratization, and denazification" should go to the Control Council in Berlin.

As regards the four-Power treaty of guarantee Mr. Marshall said his Government regarded very seriously what was in effect its rejection by Russia. The redraft M. Molotov had introduced sought to include in it nearly all their fundamental differences on Germany, and in that way made agreement on a specific treaty impossible "at this time".

M. Molotov said the character of his proposal had been misinterpreted. If legitimate amendments were not to be considered then Mr. Marshall should say so. The U.S. proposal had narrowed and distorted the meaning of the Potsdam decisions; all talk of democratization had been hushed up. The U.S. draft was on too narrow a basis, and it was the refusal to consider the Soviet amendments that had led to the treaty's rejection. Mr. Marshall merely replied that the real state of affairs was clear from the record of the conference.

The Ministers next agreed that the Control Council should draw up a plan by July 1 for absorbing into the German economy all German prisoners of war still retained, including those in civilian jobs, and that all such men should be repatriated by the end of 1948.

April 24.—The Conference ended, after deciding that the discussion of the treaties should be resumed in London in November. As regards Austria, they agreed to appoint a four-Power commission, to begin work in Vienna not later than May 12, to examine all the "disagreed questions". They also decided that the Control Council in Berlin should work out, and report not later than June 1, how many troops would be needed in each zone on Sept. 1. M. Molotov agreed to 200,000 for the Soviet zone, but suggested the same number for the "combined Anglo-American zone", and 50,000 for the French. (The proposal put forward by Mr. Byrnes in 1946 was for 140,000 each for the British and American, and 70,000 for the French.) It was eventually decided to leave the fixing of the figures to the Control Council.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF U.N.O.

April 28.—A special session of the General Assembly opened, called at the request of the British Government to appoint a committee to study the Palestine question in preparation for recommendations by the Assembly at its autumn session. Dr. Aranha of Brazil was elected president. Siam was formally admitted to membership of U.N.O., and the following were then elected vice-presidents: France, the U.S.A., Britain, China, the U.S.S.R., India, and Ecuador. It was decided that the steering committee should be composed of the president and vice-presidents and the chairmen of the 6 main committees. (They represented Canada, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Poland, and Honduras.)

The president received from three Jewish organizations requests for non-voting seats.

April 29.—In the steering committee the Indian delegate, Mr. Asaf Ali, supported an attempt by the Arab States to have the question of termination of the Mandate and a declaration of the independence of Palestine added to the agenda. He also tried to commit Britain to unconditional acceptance of the Assembly's eventual decisions before the committee authorized the inclusion in the agenda of the British request for the appointment of a study committee.

Dr. Aranha said he had assumed that the concurrence of the majority of the nations in a special session of the Assembly on the basis of the British Government's letter connoted admission by the Assembly of the British proposal to the agenda. Mr. Ali said that Lord Hall's statement in the House of Lords on April 23 altered the position, and the committee must know what the British position was with regard to implementing the Assembly's decisions, and the Egyptian delegate supported him. M. Gromyko described Mr. Ali's question as very pertinent, but Sir Alexander Cadogan pointed out that Lord Hall had not said anything about refusing to accept recommendations by the Assembly, but only spoke of Britain being unable to carry out alone a policy she thought wrong. Sir Alexander said that any decision of the

Assembly might have to be enforced. At present Britain bore the responsibility single-handed, and it was a heavy one. If Mr. Ali meant that the British were expected single-handed to expend blood and treasure in carrying out a policy that they might not be able to reconcile with their consciences the answer was in the negative, but this was the only reservation his Government had to make.

The Polish delegate, dealing with the Arab demands, said he sympathized with the proposition for Palestine independence, but as it involved termination of the Mandate he could not vote until the Assembly had decided to allow the Jews to take part in the discussions. The Arab delegates said this meant waiting for ever, for under the Charter there was no place for the Jews in the U.N. Assembly.

The U.S. delegate, later supported by Canada, said the Assembly had been called for a procedural task, and should confine itself to that. A proper approach to the solution of the Palestine problem called for impartial analysis and collation of facts and the formulation of recommendations for the next Assembly session. This might be the last chance of solving the problem in a fair manner, and if it were missed, Palestine might be ruined. Successful work by U.N.O. required that its decisions be fair, and also be regarded by world opinion as fair, and they must therefore be reached in an atmosphere free from the pressure of great Power interests and intrigues.

M. Gromyko thought that refusal by the Assembly to discuss the substance of the question might be interpreted unfavourably by world opinion, so he supported the inclusion of the Arab proposition as a peg on which to hang a general discussion of the whole problem.

April 30.—The Czechoslovak delegate on the steering committee offered to support the Arab proposition if it were amended to provide that any action on it in the Assembly need not necessarily go beyond discussion. The U.S. delegate called attention to the danger of fomenting passions "among the peoples vitally interested" by starting a debate under the heading of the termination of the Mandate and independence for Palestine. Such a debate now, on the basis of partisan statements, would also be the reverse of helpful to the committee which might be appointed to study the problem.

The Arab States' reply was that independence as the political goal was written into the Mandate, and it was also a point of agreement, not of difference, between Arabs and Jews. Sir Alexander Cadogan asked, what would the agenda look like if it contained at one and the same time proposals that the Assembly should set up machinery to prepare for recommendations by the Assembly at its autumn session, and a proposal that the Assembly should discuss immediately one particular solution? The British proposal excluded no solution, and in that sense was broader than that of the Arabs. It envisaged a committee which would explore all material and call evidence from all interested parties.

Sweden and Ecuador supported the British and U.S. proposals, and pointed out that they were not so well informed about the complications in Palestine that they were prepared to discuss them in advance of international study. India suggested to the Arab States that they

suspend their proposal, as termination of the Mandate was a solution bound to be taken into consideration by any committee of inquiry or study. Also, the Arabs would get plenty of opportunity for debate in the Assembly, no matter what the decision of the steering committee.

The delegates of France, China, and Honduras also advocated awaiting an international study before entering on a general discussion. For one thing, the discussion would be interminable, and where would be the time for any impartial investigation before the autumn session?

May 1.—The steering committee, by 8 votes to 1 (Egypt), with 5 abstentions, decided that it could not recommend the inclusion of the Arab proposition in the agenda. The Assembly in full session then placed on the agenda, as its only item, the British proposal for the appointment of a committee of study.

The request by Egypt and the Arab States that the question of the termination of the Mandate and the declaration of independence be included was defeated by 24 votes to 15, with 10 abstentions.

May 2.—In a debate on the question how the Jewish Agency could be given a hearing Mr. Trygve Lie told the steering committee that hitherto the Assembly had been regarded as being for States who were members of U.N.O., and no one else, and to admit a non-governmental organization might be a precedent with awkward consequences. The hearing of the Jewish Agency before a committee might be another question.

Poland asked that the Agency be given the privilege of appearing before a plenary session of the Assembly to express its views. The committee then by 8 votes to 3 (Russia, Poland, and Czechoslovakia), with 3 abstentions, (Brazil, Ecuador, and Honduras), decided against allowing Agency representation before the plenary session, and adopted by 11 votes to nil, with 3 abstentions (Russia, Poland, and Czechoslovakia), a U.S. proposal that the matter go to the Assembly's political committee.

May 3.—The Assembly debated the question of giving the Jewish Agency a hearing, and the Soviet delegate supported its request for a voice on the floor of the Assembly, on the ground that the Arab States, in the debate on the agenda, had succeeded in presenting their policy for Palestine, so the Jews ought to have equal facilities. Britain and the U.S.A. argued that constitutionally there was no place for non-governmental bodies on the floor of the Assembly proper, but the political committee might hear the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee.

May 5.—The Assembly adopted, by 44 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions, a resolution sponsored by 3 South American and 2 Slav countries making it mandatory upon the political committee to hear the Jewish Agency, and leaving it to the committee's discretion whether to hear other organizations representing the people of Palestine. It rejected, by 39 votes to 8, with 7 abstentions, a resolution proposing giving to the Jewish Agency a non-voting seat in the Assembly.

May 6.—In the political committee the Egyptian and Arab States' delegates declared that they would withdraw from its work unless the resolution adopted by the Assembly the previous day was modified, since

the resolution made a legal discrimination in favour of the Jewish Agency on the basis of a Mandate they had never recognized to be legal by making specific mention of the Agency, but not of the Arab Higher Committee.

The committee finally decided that they should hear both the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee, and appointed a sub-committee of 5 to report on applications from 5 Jewish organizations which included both supporters of the terrorists and opponents of Zionism.

May 7.—The political committee, by 28 votes to 5, adopted a resolution asking the president to call an immediate plenary session of the Assembly to instruct the committee to give the Arab Higher Committee a hearing (as already decided upon). This followed a discussion on the composition and terms of reference of the proposed special committee, during which the Indian delegate reminded the members that the Arab States were boycotting the committee. The proceedings were accordingly suspended.

On the composition of the special committee the U.S. delegate proposed that it consist of representatives of Canada, Czechoslovakia, The Netherlands, Persia, Peru, Sweden, and Uruguay. He and the British delegate strongly advocated not including the great Powers, on the ground that the committee would have to hear witnesses representing all interests, for which reason all interested parties ought to be kept out, otherwise they would be appearing alternately in the witness stand and the jury box.

Argentina proposed a resolution to form a committee of 11, to include all the great Powers. Australia pointed out that the great Powers had so far been unable to settle anything.

The Assembly, in plenary session, adopted by 39 votes to 1, with 11 abstentions, a resolution declaring that the political committee had correctly interpreted the intention of the Assembly by its decision to grant a hearing to the Arab Higher Committee.

May 8.—In the political committee's debate on the composition and terms of reference of the study committee Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and the Dominican Republic supported the U.S. proposal for a committee of 7 small and medium Powers with no direct interests in Palestine. The Near East countries made the reservation that, before accepting the idea, the Assembly should be assured that the great Powers were agreed on their own exclusion. Czechoslovakia also pointed out that the committee's recommendations would have to be acceptable to the Great Powers which, particularly the Mandatory, would be responsible for their execution.

The British and U.S. delegates then indicated that their Governments would serve on the committee if asked to.

Dr. Silver, chairman of the American executive of the Jewish Agency, referring to the committee's terms of reference, argued that in these "the Jewish people and the Jewish national home" should be basic concepts, as they were of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate. He said the national home had not been fully developed,

maintaining that the intention of the Declaration was to facilitate the growth of the Jewish population to a majority on which the foundations of a Jewish commonwealth would be laid. But the Mandatory Government, which had been entrusted with the duty to safeguard the opportunity for the development of the national home, had in recent years grievously interfered and circumscribed it. That opportunity must now be fully restored.

He asked that the special committee should visit Palestine and see what the Jews had accomplished; also to look into the fundamental causes of the unrest, and ask why shiploads of helpless refugees were being driven away from the shores of their national home, why the Mandatory was enforcing discriminatory laws, and so on.

The U.S. delegate pointed out that it would be a deviation from the principles of the Charter if the great Powers were not to have an equal opportunity of expressing their views in the special committee, so he thought that body should include all of them or—as the U.S.A. preferred—none.

The Indian delegate told the Soviet delegate that, as an interested party, the Soviet Union ought to stand aside from the proposed committee. M. Gromyko replied that it had no material interest in the Palestine problem or in that of Jewish migration. Its interest was political only, based on its membership of the United Nations and its desire for a solution that would correspond with the interests of the people of Palestine and with those of peace.

Sir Alexander Cadogan, in reply to Dr. Silver's request that the Assembly should study British stewardship in Palestine, said his Government would give the special committee, when appointed, all data at its disposal, including an account of its administration.

The Indian delegate put questions to Dr. Silver which brought out the fact that the Jewish "home" had been substantially developed by the Mandatory, whose servants had, on Dr. Silver's admission, done unforgettable service for the Jewish people, but were nevertheless, in Mr. Asaf Ali's words, now "being picked off by violence in Palestine".

May 9.—In the Assembly M. Gromyko proposed an amendment to the terms of reference of the study committee; i.e., that they should include a directive to the committee to prepare for the September Assembly a proposal for the "establishment without delay of the independent State of Palestine". He said this need not prevent the committee from making other alternative proposals. (The draft terms of reference included a directive that the committee should bear in mind that independence was the "ultimate" purpose of any plan for Palestine.)

The U.S. delegate objected to the amendment, on the ground that it prejudged the issue. India and Yugoslavia urged that the question of independence should be included in the terms of reference.

The political committee heard the Palestinian Arab delegation representing the Arab Higher Committee, and, later, a recommendation by a sub-committee of 5 that they give hearings to no non-governmental organizations except the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish

Agency, and that the requests of other bodies should be dealt with by a special committee of inquiry on Palestine when it was set up.

The delegate of the Arab Higher Committee maintained that the Mandate had "died with the League of Nations". The Mandate, from the moment of its grant was, he argued, a violation of the terms of the League Covenant, which recognized the independence of territories formerly in the Turkish Empire, an independence guaranteed to them as soon as they were able to stand alone after being given help by the Mandatory. He also argued that the Palestine question had nothing to do with the problem of the displaced Jews in Europe.

May 10.—In the Assembly M. Gromyko said that if there was any really strong opposition to his amendment he would not bring it to a vote. The U.S. delegate, opposing the Arab and Soviet proposal to instruct the committee to draw up plans for the independence of Palestine, did not think the Assembly should give it any guidance at all on the subject of independence. He was not arguing for a Jewish State, he said, but simply did not want the committee to be told what the "ultimate purpose" of its study ought to be.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT CONFERENCE

April 23.—At the final session the leader of the British delegation announced that his Government could not associate themselves with the draft of the wheat agreement before the conference. They were in complete accord with its general plan, but regarded certain of the prices as excessive. He said the world would have to face much lower prices for wheat than those which ruled now, and the British Government wished to see changes made without hardship to the producer. They did not, however, consider that the price scheme in the agreement would enable the price to be reduced to a reasonable figure sufficiently quickly.

It was unanimously agreed to hand over the draft document to the International Wheat Council and invite countries not members of the Council to join and take part in discussions.

April 28.—The World Timber Conference, under the auspices of the F.A.O., opened in Prague. The majority of the European States and many others attended. The U.S.S.R. was not represented.

UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS

THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

May 2.—The opening session was held in Geneva. Eighteen European countries were represented and also the U.S.A. The British delegate spoke of the great importance his country attached to the restoration of European economy. Prosperity would only come by the

efforts of each country. The valuable function of the Commission would be that it would enable all countries to compare notes on common problems, and his Government were proposing to be permanently represented in Geneva. He pointed out that the revival of German economy must not be allowed to lag behind that of other countries or the whole of Europe would suffer. The Anglo-American bi-zonal organization in Germany was being overhauled so that effective control could be maintained over German trade while its operation was being returned to German hands. The British Government would still retain ultimate responsibility and would give the closest consideration to any representations the Commission might make on German economic affairs.

The U.S. delegate said the U.S.A. was vitally concerned with the economic revival of Europe, both as an occupying Power and because world peace and prosperity were impossible without European economic revival.

May 3.—The French delegate stressed the importance to Europe of an economic revival in Germany, since her resources would be a valuable element in the general economy. The Yugoslav delegate said his country had by no means recovered from the effects of war and estimated further credits required at \$68 million.

May 5.—The leader of the Danish delegation, Hr. Waerum, was elected chairman of the Commission. The Soviet delegate said the primary purpose of the Commission was to assist the countries which had been invaded in their task of reconstruction. It would be the work of the Commission to organize help, but it must not depart from the principle that no action should be taken in any country without the consent of its Government and that granting of assistance should not be influenced by political considerations. Restoration work in devastated areas would be a great step towards stabilizing peace. The Byelo-Russian delegate made similar points. The Czechoslovak delegate agreed that devastated countries must come first. He said the economic structure of Europe had changed since the war, and thought they would have to study the economic and social plans of various countries to determine the extent to which they could co-operate regardless of frontiers.

THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

April 28.—The Council expressed confidence in the British policy regarding German and Italian residents in Tanganyika, and decided no action should be taken on petitions put forward by these residents.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL

May 3.—The military staff committee of the Council submitted its report laying down the principles on which the armed forces of the United Nations as envisaged in Article 43 of the Charter should be organized. Of the 41 articles 25 were agreed to unanimously, and 11 others had the assent of 4 out of the 5 great Powers represented on the committee. The U.S.S.R. disagreed with the other Powers on 4 main points. They proposed (1) that the contributions of the Great Powers

should be equal in strength and composition; (2) that a time limit should be set on the presence of a United Nations force in any territory after operations ceased, and suggested 30 to 90 days, (3) that any United Nations force should in peace time be stationed within the frontiers of the contributing members' own territories or territorial waters; (4) that since the question of bases for a U.N. force was not mentioned in the Charter, there was no point in discussing the matter. Britain, the U.S.A., France, and China could not agree to these restrictions. France and China wished to insert an article providing for the withdrawal of any forces made available in the event of a national emergency or in self defence.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1947		
May	19	Anglo-French Conference on West Africa, Dakar.
"	20	Meeting of the joint U.S.-Russian Commission, Seoul, Korea.
"	26	U.N. Social Commission, Lake Success.
"	?	U.N.E.S.C.O. Second Representative Conference on Reconstruction and Rehabilitation, Paris.
June	2	Viceroy's meeting with Indian leaders, Delhi.
"	7	International Socialist Congress, Zürich.
"	19	I.L.O. Thirtieth Session, Geneva.
July	1	U.N. Economic and Social Council, Lake Success.
"	1	I.T.U. International Conference on Telecommunications, Atlantic City.
Aug.	26	F.A.O. Conference, Geneva.
Sept.	16	U.N. General Assembly, Lake Success.
Nov.	17	International Maritime Conference, Lake Success.
"	?	The Council of Foreign Ministers, London.